

Message Text

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ACTION OES-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, JA, US

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF US/JAPAN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

REF: STATE 221370

1. ACTION TAKEN ON REFTEL UPON RECEIPT. MASUDA VERY COOPERATIVE. HE WILL SEEK TO AVOID OBTAINING GOJ AGENCY "APPROVALS" BUT OF COURSE WILL HAVE THEM REVIEW DOCUMENT. HIS INITIAL VIEW IS THAT USG DESIRE TO HAVE REPORT SIGNED ONLY BY CO-CHAIRMEN MIGHT BE ACCOMMODATED BY HAVING CO-CHAIRMEN SIGN TRANSMITTAL LETTER FORWARDING REPORT TO RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS, BUT THAT NON-GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS FROM BOTH SIDES SHOULD SIGN REPORT ITSELF. HE IS NOT FIXED IN THIS OPINION AND WANTS TO WAIT TO SEE DOCUMENT BEFORE GIVING OFFICAL VIEW. MASUDA FULLY UNDERSTANDS NECESSITY OF URGENT GOJ REVIEW TO MEET SCHEDULE. (THIS WILL DEPEND TO SOME EXTENT ON TIMELY RECEIPT OF DRAFT REPORT.) CONCERNING NEED FOR REPORT TO BE IN TWO LANGUAGES, MASUDA'S REACTION WAS THAT PRELIMINARY AGREEMENT ALREADY REACHED THAT ENGLISH VERSION WOULD BE ONLY ONE SIGNED, BUT THAT "UNAUTHORIZED" JAPANESE TEXT WOULD BE PREPARED BY GOJ FOR TRANSMITTAL TO MINISTERIAL LEVEL OFFICIALS AND FOR RELEASE TO PRESS. IF AGREEMENT ON ENGLISH TEXT IS REACHED REASONABLY SOON, HE EXPECTS TO HAVE JAPANESE TEXT AVILABLE TO US SIDE TWO WEEKS BEFORE NOVEMBER MEETING, BUT IT WILL NOT REQUIRE CONFORMATION. OKITA IS OUT OF TOWN AND MASUDA WILL PASS INFO TO HIM ON HIS RETURN.

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2. ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH RECEIPT OF REFTTEL, SCICOUNS RECEIVED NOTE FROM MASUDA GIVING AIST/MITI COMMENTS ON MINUTES OF CHICAGO MEETING, AND REQUESTING THAT THEY BE FORWARDED TO DEPT. SINCE THESE COMMENTS BEAR DIRECTLY ON FINAL REPORT, THEY ARE TRANSMITTED VERBATIM BELOW:

1. ENERGY

(1) PORTABLE ENERGY (FOR VEHICULAR USE)

THE ITEM (C) "STORAGE BATTERIES," TOGETHER WITH THE ITEM (G), IN THE ARTICLE 3 OF THE ENERGY COOPERATION AGREEMENT OF 1974 SEEMS TO COVER AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS FIELD. THE JAPANESE SIDE WILL CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF THE COOPERATION, IF A SPECIFIC AND WELL DEFINED TOPIC WILL BE PROPOSED.

(2) TRANSPORTATION OF ENERGY (COAL)

IF THE SUGGESTION MEANS THE TRANSPORTATION OF COAL IN SLURRY FORM, THE JAPANESE SIDE IS NOT PARTICULARLY INTERESTED, BECAUSE THE TRANSPORTATION OF COAL IS NOT FELT CAUSING SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN JAPAN.

2. COOPERATION AMONG PRIVATE INDUSTRIES

AT PRESENT, THERE IS NO SPECIFIC MEASURES AIMED AT PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AMONG PRIVATE INDUSTRIES. THE JAPANESE SIDE FEELS IT NECESSARY TO STUDY IN WHAT FIELD AND TO WHAT EXTENT SUCH MEASURES ARE REQUIRED AND WHAT ROLE THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD PLAY.

3. JOINT R AND D IN INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

THE JAPANESE SIDE FEELS THAT IT MAY BE APPROPRIATE TO LAUNCH A COOPERATIVE CASE-STUDY ON THE METHOD OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF, FOR EXAMPLE, ELECTRIC AUTOMOBILE, IN SPITE OF THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE MENTIONED IN 1 (1) OF THE PREVIOUS PAPER (UNAUTHORIZED TRANSLATION) ON INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY.

3. MASUDA'S NOTE STATES THAT AIST COMMENT NO. 3 ABOVE MAY BE SIGNIFICANT FOR FUTURE COOPERATION.

HODGSON

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